

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) laboratory scale results have been achieved in photobiological, photoelectro-chemical and electrolysis techniques for production of hydrogen. New hydride materials for storage of hydrogen have been developed and efforts are under way to further improve the storage capacity of such materials. A two wheeler motor cycle has been test driven upto 25 Kms using the metal hydride storage device at Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi. Tests have also been carried out on hydrogen fuelled small horse power engine utility systems at Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi. Research efforts are underway to improve the technologies and their economic viability which are likely to yield results for wide spread use in the long run.

(b) An approximate amount of Rs.2.56 crores have been provided for this programme during 1985-92.

(c) the programme in this area will depend on the allocation for the eighth Five Year Plan which is yet to be finalised.

Telephone Connections in Lakhadweep

7116. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pending applications for telephone connection in Lakshadweep; and

(b) the action being taken to expedite the release of telephone connections there?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) There are 406 pending applications as on 31.3.1992.

(b) Out of the waiting applicants given above, about 150 are expected to be provided with telephone connections during the year 1992-93. Additional telephone connections are expected to be released in subsequent years in line with the objective of the draft 8th Five Year Plan (1992-97) to provide telephone connections (by the end of plan period) practically on demand in rural and tribal areas.

New TV Relay Centres in U.P. and Madhya Pradesh

7117. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the place in Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh where new TV relay centres have been set up during the last six months alongwith their converge capacity;

(b) the percentage of area in all the five districts of Bundelkhand division of Uttar Pradesh is covered by TV programmes;

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken in near future to increase their relay capacity; and

(d) the places in Uttar Pradesh where TV relay centres are propose to be set up during 1992-93?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) Whereas no TV transmitter has been commissioned in Madhya Pradesh during the last six months, a TV transposer (2x10 W) has been commissioned at Mussoorie in Uttar Pradesh in December, 1991.

(b) About 66.4% area of Bundelkhand division of Uttar Pradesh is at present covered by TV service. This includes fringes